2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Implementation of article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and paragraph 4 (c) of the 1995 decision on "Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament"

Report submitted by Japan

In accordance with subparagraph 12 of paragraph 15 in the chapter on article VI of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference, the Government of Japan reports on the measures it has taken to implement article VI of the Treaty and paragraph 4 (c) of the 1995 decision on "Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament".

1. Contribution to the 2005 review process

In order to make tangible contributions to the preparatory process for the 2005 Review Conference and to clearly explain its position on nuclear disarmament, Japan has presented the following working papers to each session of the Preparatory Committee:

- NPT/CONF.2005/PC.I/WP.7
- NPT/CONF.2005/PC.II/WP.15 and NPT/CONF.2005/PC.II/WP.18
- NPT/CONF.2005/PC.III/WP.11, NPT/CONF.2005/PC.III/WP.17, NPT/CONF.2005/PC.III/WP.18 and Corr.1.

In addition, on 7 and 8 February 2005, Japan hosted the Tokyo seminar on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, "Toward the 2005 Review Conference", in order to pave the way for a successful outcome for the 2005 Review Conference.

2. Commitment to the three non-nuclear principles

The Government of Japan continues to be firmly committed to the three non-nuclear principles, which describes the policy of not possessing, not producing and not permitting the introduction of nuclear weapons into Japan. The successive Cabinets of Japan, including the incumbent cabinet under Prime Minister Junichiro

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Koizumi, have repeatedly articulated that Japan will continue to uphold these principles.

3. Efforts for the early entry-into-force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Japan emphasizes the importance of the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty which constitutes one of the major pillars of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons regime. From this point of view, Japan has made various efforts, including the following:

(a) Japan has seized every high-level opportunity to convince States that have not yet signed or ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, especially those States listed in annex II, of the importance of its early entry into force.

(b) On 3 September 2003, then Minister for Foreign Affairs, Yoriko Kawaguchi, attended the Third Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, making a strong personal appeal for its signing and ratification as early as possible. In addition, prior to that Conference, together with the President of the Conference, the Foreign Minister of Finland, Mr. Tuomioja, and the Foreign Minister of Austria, Ms. Ferrero-Waldner, Minister Kawaguchi sent a joint letter to the remaining 12 countries, whose ratification was a prerequisite for its entry into force, encouraging them to ratify the Treaty as soon as possible, following which joint démarches were made by Japan, Finland and Austria.

(c) In September 2004, Japan, together with Australia, Finland and the Netherlands, co-hosted the "Friends of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty" Foreign Ministers Meeting. The joint ministerial statement issued at the meeting underlined that the progress on the early entry into force of the Treaty would also contribute to a positive outcome of the 2005 Review Conference.

(d) In April 2005, prior to the 2005 Review Conference, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Nobutaka Machimura, sent letters to 11 States whose ratification is required for the Treaty to enter into force.

(e) As part of the establishment of the International Monitoring System, the construction of domestic monitoring facilities in Japan has been steadily progressing under the supervision of its National Operation System for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. To date, three domestic monitoring facilities have been formally certified by the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Preparatory Commission of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization.

(f) Ambassador Yukio Takasu, Permanent Representative of Japan to the Preparatory Commission of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, was elected as chairman of the Commission for 2004 and made every effort towards the achievement of the Treaty's early entry into force.

(g) Japan has encouraged countries that have not yet ratified the Treaty to do so by, for example, providing technical assistance in the field of earthquake monitoring technology for the establishment of the International Monitoring System.

(h) Japan also took the initiative, together with Germany, to hold a seminar on civil and scientific applications of verification technologies for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty at the Japanese-German Centre Berlin in May 2004.

4. Activities in preparation for the commencement of negotiations on the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty

Japan emphasizes the importance and urgency of the commencement of negotiations on the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty. As a concrete contribution, Japan presented, on 14 August 2003, a working paper on the Treaty to the Conference on Disarmament, aimed at deepening discussions on the substantive issues, and facilitating the early commencement of negotiations.

Japan regards it as a primary task to reach an agreement on a programme of work at the Conference on Disarmament, thereby bringing about the early commencement of negotiations on the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty. Japan has been making utmost efforts to break the current stalemate at the Conference on Disarmament and has redoubled its endeavours to that end during its Presidency of the Conference on Disarmament from 18 August to 31 December 2003. On 4 September 2003, the then Foreign Minister Kawaguchi visited the Conference on Disarmament and appealed for the early resumption of substantive discussion in that Forum, stressing the need and urgency for the commencement of negotiations on the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty.

5. Submission of resolutions on nuclear disarmament to the United Nations General Assembly

Every year from 1994 to 1999, Japan submitted to the United Nations General Assembly a draft resolution calling for nuclear disarmament with a view to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons. Since 2000, Japan has annually submitted a draft resolution entitled "A path to the total elimination of nuclear weapons", reflecting the concrete and practical disarmament steps agreed to in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference. Japan's draft resolutions, aiming at the realization of a peaceful and safe world free of nuclear weapons, have been adopted with the overwhelming support of the international community. It is to be noted that in 2004 the resolution received the greatest number of votes in favour in 10 years.

6. Cooperation for denuclearization in the Russian Federation

At their Summit in Kananaskis, Canada, in June 2002, the leaders of the Group of Eight announced the "G-8 Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction" to address non-proliferation, disarmament, counter-terrorism and nuclear safety issues. Japan committed itself, for the purpose of the Partnership, to make a contribution amounting to a little more than $200 million United States dollars, of which $100 million is to be allocated to the G-8 disposition programme for Russian surplus weapon-grade plutonium and the rest to projects for dismantling Russian decommissioned nuclear submarines. Meanwhile, with the cooperation of Japan, for the first time, 20 kilograms of weapon-grade plutonium, equivalent to two to three nuclear warheads, was successfully disposed of with the aid of advanced technology developed by Russian scientists. Under the same partnership, in December 2003, Japan and the Russian

Federation launched the first cooperation project to dismantle a Victor III class decommissioned nuclear submarine, a project, which was successfully completed in December 2004. At present, Japan and the Russian Federation are making great efforts to conclude an implementing arrangement for dismantling five additional decommissioned nuclear submarines.

7. Efforts to promote disarmament and non-proliferation education

In August 2002, the Group of Governmental Experts to prepare a United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education submitted the report on disarmament and non-proliferation education to the Secretary-General. Resolution 57/60, requesting the implementation of the report, was adopted without a vote at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

Since 1983, Japan has invited more than 550 participants in the United Nations disarmament fellowship programme to Japan, including to the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, providing these young officials, who will be responsible for future disarmament diplomacy, with an opportunity to witness the horrendous and long-lasting consequences caused by atomic bombs. Japan will continue to contribute to this programme.

Japan believes that the international community should be well informed of the destructive effects of nuclear weapons. In accordance with the wish of the people of Japan that such weapons never be used again, the Government of Japan has supported, on a number of occasions, the efforts of local governments and non-governmental organizations to organize exhibitions relating to atomic bombs in foreign countries, including the Hiroshima-Nagasaki A-bomb exhibition in Aubagne, France, in September 2004 and in Compton, United States of America, in March 2005. Such an exhibition is now being held, at the United Nations during the Review Conference, with the support of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations.

To elucidate the current state of disarmament and non-proliferation activities and to gain broad understanding and support for the issue, in March 2004, the Government of Japan published a book entitled *Japan's Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Policy*.

In its efforts to implement the recommendations suggested in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts (A/57/124), Japan invited prominent educators on disarmament and non-proliferation to visit Japan in November 2002, January 2004 and February 2005. The educators gave lectures in Tokyo, Hiroshima and Nagasaki on the necessity of nuclear disarmament and also exchanged opinions with the victims of atomic bombs and representatives of non-governmental organizations.